



THE GRIFFIN

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS 1928-2018

NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORIC IRONWOOD THEATRE

WINTER 2017-18



ZONA WICK, STAN CARR, SUSIE FILIPPO, JIM SIMMONS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Building on the previous years' leadership and vision, the theatre initiated a major re-organization project in 2017. 2018 is a time of opportunity and change. The years of work by volunteers in the office, at the shows, on the board, performing on stage, writing grants, planning programs, asking for donations, cleaning the building, repairing the equipment, and scores of other contributions--- those years of work have paved the way for our next steps. Over a period of many months and with the help of volunteer consulting help, we have organized the grant and programming teams, and we are developing financial and volunteer teams. With help from Don and Abby Funk, our winter Big HIT fundraiser will be the biggest ever. With donations from you, and a grant from MCACA, and financing from Ironwood, we are getting a new roof. We are in the process of exiting from financial stresses and hope to achieve financial sustainability by October, 2018. A new executive hands-on team on the board is super-charged and supporting the volunteer efforts to bring you great performances and build more opportunities for our youth. We invite you to join us in this endeavor, as we improve the delivery of our mission: to bring the best performing arts opportunities to the community. ✍

Zona Wick, President
Susie Filippo, Secretary

Stan Carr, Vice President
Jim Simmons, Treasurer



KICKING TECHNOLOGY UP A NOTCH AT HIT

The theatre is currently in the early stages of developing an upgrade plan for sound and lights. First steps included updating the inventory of all sound and lighting equipment followed by inspections and analysis of capacity, needs, and resources. A volunteer-friendly training program is also in development. We recently replaced our old 24 channel analog sound mixer with a Behringer 32-channel digital mixer and stage snake. Thanks to Don Osier and Mark Silver, the new board was installed and used successfully for the first time at the HIT Idol and Lee DeWyze shows. We also acquired four new powered monitor speakers.

Speaking about the upgrade, Managing Director, Bruce Greenhill, explained that "many performing artists are demanding more capacity and more sophisticated controls - the new digital board is the first step in allowing us to meet the demands of touring performers."



MARK SILVER AT NEW SOUND MIXER

Training on the new equipment is currently being planned - if you've ever fancied yourself as a sound or lighting operator and would like to join the theatre's tech team, please give the Theatre office a call - we'll add your name and contact details to the list of tech volunteers and make sure you are invited to the forthcoming training sessions. ✍

Sun. Dec 17 @ 6 PM



The beautiful voices of the singing trio, The Lettermen, first hit the music charts in 1961 with "The Way You Look Tonight". Their voices blended as one and after following that first hit with another chart topper, "When I Fall In Love", they were voted best vocal group of that year. Their beautiful harmony truly is timeless. The current Lettermen consist of Tony Butala (the group's only original member), Donovan Scott Tea, and Robert Poynton. The year 2010 marked the group's 50th Anniversary.

Sat. Jan 6 @ 6 PM



As we often say...there are really two kinds of music: good Music and bad music. We prefer to play the good stuff...whatever it is--jam bands, funk, soul, rock, blues, jazz, and even (gulp!) the occasional country song.

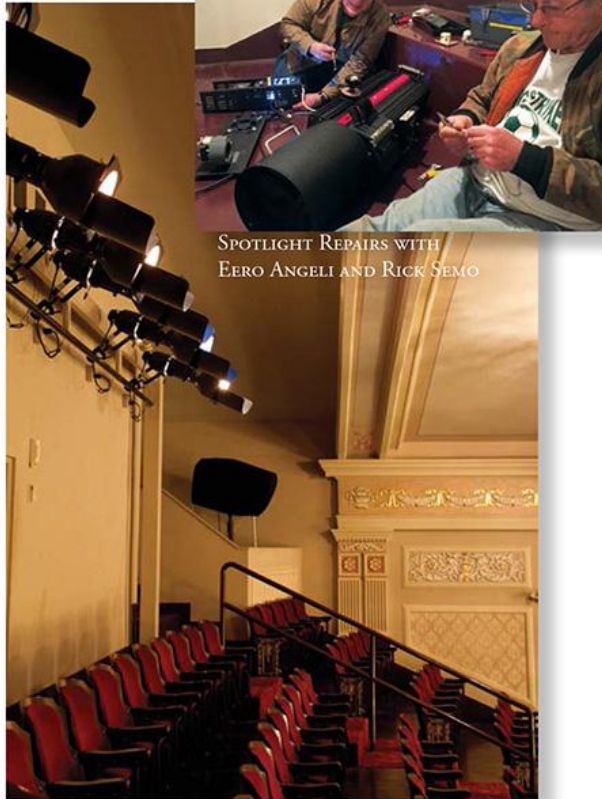
Kelly's Bar - Opens @ 5 PM

Thurs. Jan 11 @ 7 PM

Michigan Tech JAZZ LAB BAND



The award-winning Michigan Tech Jazz Lab Band, under the direction of Mike Irish, is made up of 20 musicians from throughout the country, and features a broad repertoire of music ranging from the Big Band Era to today's contemporary sounds and original compositions.



SPOTLIGHT REPAIRS WITH EERO ANGELI AND RICK SEMO



In mid November the Ironwood Theatre lost a dear friend when Randy Carr lost a courageous and determined battle to colon cancer. Randy came to Ironwood from Houston in 2012 to take care of his mom and soon became a tireless volunteer at the Historic Ironwood Theatre, dropping off fliers at local businesses, overseeing the concession area, setting the stage for local productions, and working in general facility maintenance. He also volunteered at the Downtown Art Place and mowed the lawn at the Art Park and the Ironwood Carnegie Library. An accomplished metal worker, he designed and made numerous plaques and metal products. We were all blessed to have such a dedicated man become part of our community. Randy's family asked that memorials in Randy's name be made the Historic Ironwood Theatre or Downtown Art Place. 🏹



VOLUNTEERS RANDY CARR AND ANN SCHELDE



Operation of the Historic Ironwood Theatre is supported in part by a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

GRIFFIN layout/design by SHARPGRAPHICDESIGN.COM

www.ironwoodtheatre.net

Sat. Jan 20 @ 7 PM

OLE & LENA RENEW THEIR VOWS!



When Lena sees a young couple renew their vows on the Dr. Phil Show, she decides that's what she and Ole are going to do for their 50th wedding anniversary. One problem: the only thing on Ole's mind is the Lodge's ice fishing tournament, and how he and his neighbor and lifelong friend, Sven, are going to win the "whole deal." Hilarious comedy about love, marriage, and growing old together.

Sat. Feb 10 @ 7 PM

THE BROTHERS BURN MOUNTAIN



Based out of Duluth, MN, The Brothers Burn Mountain are a soulful, energetic, eclectic duo of real-life brothers, Ryan and Jesse Dermody. They've been playing music together every day for more than 16 years. They've released 8 full-length albums of original music, and have toured the country over the years, especially in the Midwest. They've played more than 1,400 live shows. Though it can be difficult to put their sound into words, some have called it avant-garde blues rock. Basically it is just really good-ol' rock n' roll with a very personalized twist of bluesy tastes.

Sat. Feb 24 @ 7 PM



BIG HIT WINE & BEER FEST

Join us for the 3rd Annual BIG HIT Wine & Beer Fest fundraiser at the Ironwood Memorial Building Auditorium. Bid on some wonderful silent auction items, socialize with friends, sample fine wines and MI craft beers, enjoy gourmet hors d'oeuvres - and know that through your attendance, you are supporting our beloved Historic Ironwood Theatre and helping to meet a challenge match that will double the value of your contribution.

90 YEARS
STRONG
HIT

Mark your calendar now for our
90th Anniversary Celebration on
Saturday, July 28, 2018.

Original music for the show is currently being written. As more details are confirmed we will share them with you, but we can tell you it will feature vaudeville-style song and dance numbers showcasing the talents of local and regional musicians and a number of local youth vocalists.

EARLIER SHOW TIMES

You may notice an earlier start time on our shows through the coming winter. The theatre's Program Team considered comments from current theatre patrons about driving home late at night after shows, then made the decision to bring most start times forward by half an hour. We are interested to hear your thoughts on this change - please let us know what you think.

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE HISTORIC IRONWOOD THEATRE

At this time of year there is much for which we can all be grateful. Exceptionally giving volunteers who run the office, book and look after performers and promote upcoming events. Others who sell tickets, popcorn and drinks at shows. Then there are ushers and ticket-takers, and cleaners and maintenance people. We are blessed with talented performers, skilled sound and lighting folk, and committed directors and producers who work together to continually present top quality entertainment. None of this would happen without donors, sponsors and benefactors, nor without the support of local media staff and organizations who regularly tell the story of what's happening on the HIT stage. We are especially grateful to all of you who buy tickets to shows, bring friends and family, and continue to show your belief in all that we do. And what we do at HIT is so much more than simply present quality entertainment. Together we provide opportunities for young people to find their voices, for adults to step into the spotlight, and for gifted musicians, dancers and other performers to celebrate their craft and creativity in an environment that was designed expressly for that purpose.

I once read: "There are two ways of being creative - one can sing and one can dance, or one can create environments within which singers and dancers flourish." May the spirit of shared commitment to the creative, sustain this remarkable institution and facility for another 90 years!

BRUCE GREENHILL, *Managing Director*



FOR TICKETS & OTHER INFO



THEATRE BOX OFFICE

Open: Wed - Friday Noon - 4:30 PM
906-932-0618

DAY OF SHOW

Available in the Concourse one hour before showtime



PayPal



www.ironwoodtheatre.net



info@ironwoodtheatre.net



IRONWOOD THEATRE, INC.
PO Box 187
IRONWOOD MI 49938

"The primary function of a theater is not to please itself, or even to please its audience. It is to serve talent."

ROBERT BRUSTEIN

NEVER MISS A SHOW! CUT OUT - PLACE ON FRIG!

SAT MARCH 17 @ 7 PM **BADGE**

Badge has been performing classic rock-n-roll throughout the Midwest & Canada for more than 40 years.

Over the years, Badge has performed with big names including Boston, Steppenwolf, Herman's Hermits, The Association, Ricky Nelson, Tommy James & the Shondells, The Grassroots, The Fifth Dimension, Black Oak Arkansas, and more. Local youth will be joining Badge on stage.

SAT MARCH 31 @ 7 PM

THE SUPERIOR HORNS & BLUE ICE

Get ready to rock with some of the area's finest musicians, playing the music of Chicago, Billy Joel, Van Morrison, and more.

FRI APRIL 20 @ 7 PM **KEWEENAW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Founded in 1971, KSO is the Upper Peninsula's oldest orchestra and one of five symphony orchestras in the Lake Superior region. The KSO is a college-community ensemble comprised of Michigan Tech students, faculty and staff, and community musicians.

SUN APRIL 22 **PETER YARROW**

As a member of the 1960s folk trio, *Peter, Paul & Mary*, Peter Yarrow wrote or co-wrote some of the group's greatest hits, including "Lemon Tree", "If I Had a Hammer"

and perhaps their best known song "Puff, the Magic Dragon". Through his music he continues to spread his message of love and peace.

JUNE 25 - 30 **PFCT - ALLADIN & HIS MAGIC LAMP**

Auditions Mon 6/25. SHOWS SAT 6/30 2 PM & 6 PM
Open to aspiring actors aged 8-16. No charge to participate thanks to generous sponsorship by local *UNITED WAY*.

JULY - **BROWN BAG CONCERTS**

Check website for concert listings www.ironwoodtheatre.net.

SAT JULY 28 @ 7 PM

HIT 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

You're invited to join us as we reach a momentous milestone in our historic journey, our **90th Anniversary Celebration**. We invite you to join us as a sponsor for this once-in-a-lifetime HIT celebration as we reflect on the past and look forward to the vibrant future of this Ironwood icon.

SAT AUG 4 @ 7 PM

TIM MESUN BARTON ORGAN BENEFIT

Our own "king of the keyboard" is joined by horn player Paul Bucher and a special guest vocalist.



www.ironwoodtheatre.net

